

**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE POLICY DIRECTIVE 90-2**

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

***Staffing and Organization***

**NWS MISSION AND ORGANIZATION**

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**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:** This directive supersedes NWSPD 90-2, “*NWS Mission and Organization*”, dated July 28, 2006. Changes made to reflect the NWS Headquarters reorganization effective April 1, 2015.

1. To protect life and property and to enhance the economic well-being of the Nation, the National Weather Service (NWS) is recognized as the U.S. Federal agency responsible for weather and water forecasts and warnings.
2. The purpose of this policy is to define the mission and organizational structure of the NWS.
3. The vision of the NWS is to build a Weather-Ready Nation where society is prepared for and responds to weather-dependent events. The mission of the NWS is to provide weather, water, and climate data, forecasts and warnings for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy.
4. The NWS is a Federal organization under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA is an agency of the Department of Commerce. The organizational structure of the NWS supports the organization’s mission. (See Attachment 1, NWS Organizational Chart.)
  - 4.1 NWS is comprised of the Office of the Assistant Administrator for Weather Services and its staff offices: Chief of Staff; International Affairs; Chief Learning Officer; Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer; Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Audit Office; Assistant Chief Information Officer; and Organizational Excellence. Under the OAA is the Office of Planning & Programming for Service Delivery, the following portfolio offices are under it: Facilities; Observations; Central Processing; Dissemination; and Science and Technology Integration. Also under the OAA is the Office of Chief Operating Officer, it has one portfolio under it, the Analyze, Forecast, and Support Office; and the following field offices: National Centers for Environmental Prediction, Regional Headquarters, and Office of Water Prediction.

4.2 NWS has six regional offices as well as operating offices. The regional offices are:

- a. Eastern Region located in Bohemia, New York;
- b. Central Region located in Kansas City, Missouri;
- c. Southern Region located in Fort Worth, Texas;
- d. Western Region located in Salt Lake City, Utah;
- e. Alaska Region located in Anchorage, Alaska; and
- f. Pacific Region located in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Operating offices provide products and services across their area of responsibility and include:

- a. Weather Forecast Offices;
- b. River Forecast Centers;
- c. Center Weather Service Units;
- d. Tsunami Warning Centers;
- e. Data Collection Offices; and
- f. Weather Service Offices

5. This directive establishes the following authorities and responsibilities:

5.1 The NWS is headed by the Assistant Administrator (AA) for Weather Services, also known as the Director. The AA is responsible for leading an integrated weather services program for the Nation and for directing and managing the NWS.

5.2 Authority for the day-to-day operations of the NWS is delegated by the AA to Headquarters Office and Regional Office Directors. (See NWSPD 1-2 on "Delegation of Authority").

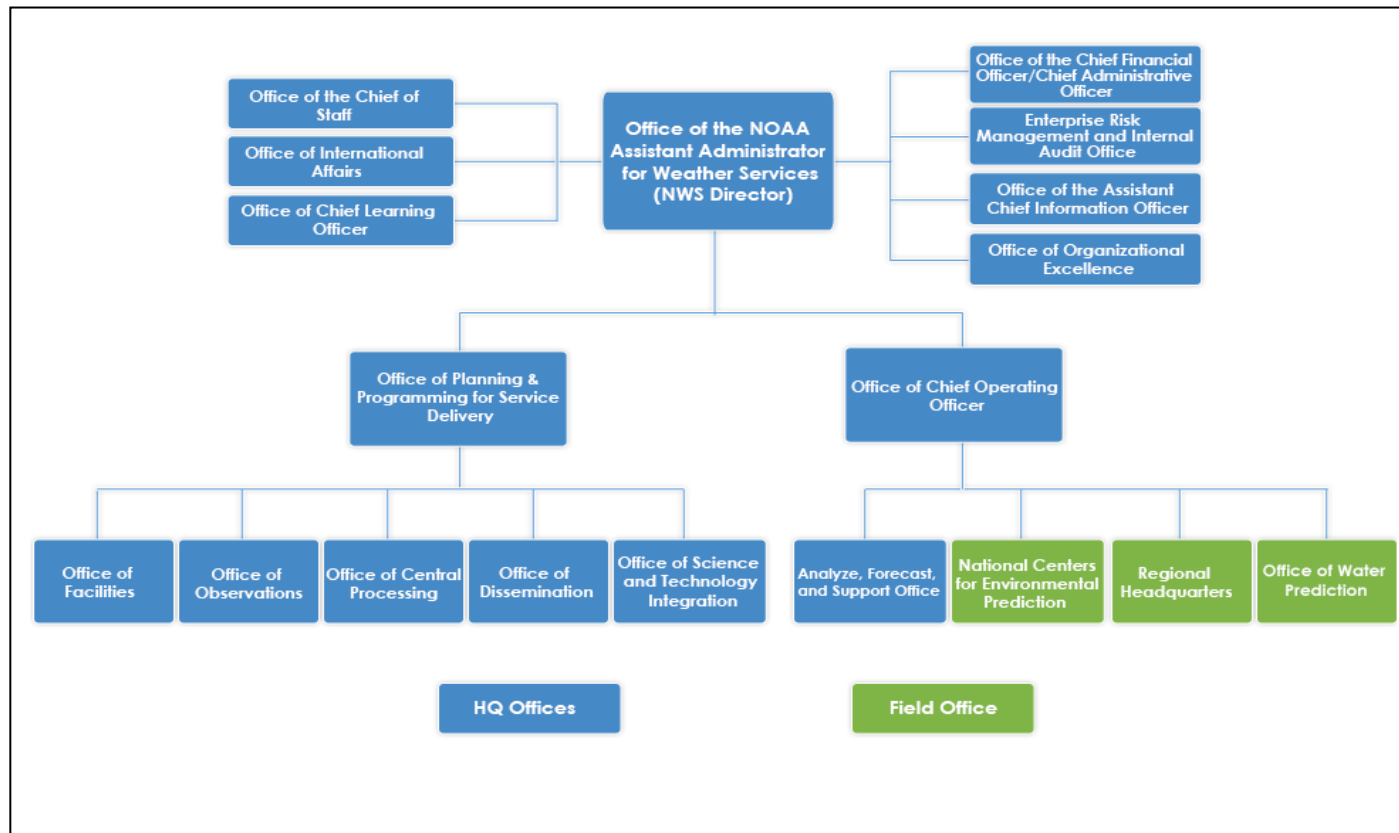
6. This policy directive is supported by the legal authorities, supporting information, and procedural directive listed in Attachment 2.

Signed	September 16, 2016
Louis W. Uccellini	Date
Assistant Administrator for Weather Services	

## Attachment 1

As of April 1, 2015, National Weather Service Headquarters is operating in a new organizational structure, depicted below. The reorganization of our headquarters allows the agency to be best positioned to fulfill its critically-important mission for NOAA and the nation, and to support the NWS field offices in providing environmental intelligence and associated services necessary to build a Weather-Ready Nation.

## NWS Organizational Structure



Note: Organization Chart depicts the components of NWS.

Attachment 2

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Legal Authorities:

Duties of Secretary of Commerce/Weather Service Organic Act, 15 U.S.C. §313 et. seq.  
Meteorological Services to Aviation, 49 U.S.C. 44720  
Cooperative Agreements/Reimbursement to Further NOAA's Mission, 15 U.S.C. §1540  
Weather Service Modernization Act of 1992, P.L. 102-567  
NWS Modernization, 15 CFR Part 946

Supporting Information:

NWSPD 1-2, Delegation of Authority  
NAO 202-351, NOAA Competitive Areas for Reduction-in-Force Effective March 19, 1990; as Amended: February 24, 2000.  
Department Organization Order 25-5, Section 8, effective May 4, 2015.  
NOAA Circular 00-13, dated September 25, 2000, NOAA Organization Handbook

Procedural Directive:

NWSI 90-201, Procedures for Organizational Change